FY 2009 Capital Budget TPS Report 48781

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development** 

**Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)** 

**Grant Recipient: Haines Borough** 

**Project Title:** 

# Haines Borough - American Bald Eagle Foundation Eagle Mew / Raptor Center

State Funding Requested: \$ 375,000 House District: 5 - C

One-Time Need

#### **Brief Project Description:**

The Bald Eagle Foundation in Haines has purchased land and a steel structure to house their Eagle Mew/Raptor Center. The funding requested would go towards the actual construction of the center.

**Funding Plan:** 

Total Cost of Project: \$500,000

<u>Funding Secured</u> <u>Other Pending Requests</u> <u>Anticipated Future Need</u>

Amount FY Amount FY Amount FY

There is no other funding needed

### **Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

The American Bald Eagle Foundation (ABEF) in Haines has a great national and international reputation. Located just a few miles from the worlds largest bald eagle preserve, its mission is to educate people about the American Bald Eagle and to protect it where they can. The ABEF has already purchased the land for this project. They have also obtained the necessary permits and materials to construct the Eagle Mew/Raptor Center. The funding requested will allow the ABEF to erect and complete the building.

Once built, the facility will house three or more bald eagles for educational purposes. The ABEF will only hold eagles that cannot be returned to the wild and they will be cared for by their on staff mater falconer who has over 35 years of experience in raptor handling and public education.

The holding center will generate much needed revenue and new employment opportunities in the Haines Borough.

The ABEF has never requested funding from the legislature before and the facility will be self sustaining.

#### **Project Timeline:**

Funding will be received in July of 2008, RFP's will go out in the fall, construction will begin in the spring of 2009.

#### **Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:**

Haines Borough

For use by Co-chair Staff Only:

Contact Name: Kaci Schroeder Hotch Contact Number: 465-3306

4:08 PM 4/29/2008

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Grant Recipient Contact Information:
Contact Name: Robert Venables, Haines Borough Manager
Phone Number: 907-766-2231
Address: P.O. Box 1209. Haines, AK 99827

Email: rvenables@haines.ak.us

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? X Yes No

Contact Name: Kaci Schroeder Hotch Contact Number: 465-3306 For use by Co-chair Staff Only:

4:08 PM 4/29/2008



# **Haines Borough** 2008 Legislative Priorities

# 25<sup>th</sup> Legislature, Second Session

# **Haines Projects**

- Sewer project Beach Road Pump Station forcemain \$399,795 This project was funded last year by the Legislature and vetoed by the Governor. It is a public safety concern and the borough is exploring al possible funding sources as the need is immediate.
- Port Chilkoot Dock Repairs \$732,900 (\$85K Main Dock Repairs) This WW2era timber structure was recently inspected by PND Engineers and has need of major repairs on both the approach trestle and the main dock. Both of these projects are in addition to the work already done in 1987 and 1996 and includes replacing pile caps, cross bracing, stringers and some pilings. The abutment bulkhead is also in need of repair/replacement. Some of this work can be done in stages. A copy of the engineer's report is attached.
- Swimming Pool Repairs (three phases) \$375,000 (This is a continuation of the rehabilitation of the pool facility. The borough has recently done over \$120K of work to replace the pool liner and other components such as the mechanical and air ventilation system. This project also received funding from the Legislature last year but was vetoed by the Governor. The aluminum circulating pipes are the most fragile and in need of immediate replacement. The floor drains in the shower rooms have failed as has the flooring beneath. Showers are not ADA compliant. The original lighting fixtures in the pool building are beyond their recommended life expectancy and are considered inappropriate for the environment. Replacing with energy efficient fixtures would result in operational savings to the borough.)
  - 1. Replace gutters and circulating pipes \$85,000
  - 2. Renovate shower rooms, lockers, and floor drains \$195,000
  - 3. Light fixtures replace with energy efficient \$95,000
- Emergency Dispatch Communication Console (E-911) \$150,000 This old communications console needs updating and replaced with a unit that is equipped with "Enhanced 9-11" to assist emergency response crews in their efforts to assist the public.
- Roads reconstruct local roads with new base material, replace utility lines as needed and resurface - \$1,086,000 This ongoing priority will address the many substandard roads in the Haines Borough, many of which were old logging roads. The borough assembly has a maintenance program and contributes annually to road repairs and upgrades.
- Roads Outside town area, reconstruct, culverts and re-surfacing \$185,000
- Sidewalk Repairs \$65,000 Nearly all sidewalks are in need of repair and many streets do not have sidewalks yet. The borough has begun an annual budget line item to address this community need.
- Tsirku River Ice Bridge Replacement \$95,000 The residents of Chilkat Lake access their properties in the summer by boat and in the winter by snowmachine over an "ice bridge". In last year's winter storm that bridge was damaged beyond repair. The borough has been seeking funding to replace this structure that is 70'X6' wide with a 20'X6" wide approach at each end.
- Backhoe \$140,000
- Debt Retirement PC Dock \$810,000
- Chilkat Center \$85,000 This project was part of the CIP projects vetoed by the Governor.
  - emergency exit ramp and support \$35,000
  - upgrade 1970s-era sound system \$50,000
- Downtown Development (inc. old school properties) \$50,000 The borough is embarking on a downtown revitalization project that will include the possible retention and use of the former elementary school building, parts of which may be of use to the community.

- Emergency Generator Water Treatment Plant \$35,000 Water quality standards and processing needs mandate a stand-by supply of power to the water treatment plant.
- Haines Senior Assisted Living Facility
- American Bald Eagle Foundation
- Port Chilkoot Restoration
  - o restore Port Chilkoot Firehall to historic standards
  - o planning funds for revitalization of barracks building

# **Regional Projects**

- Lutak Road Reconstruction, Haines Highway & ferry terminal Improvements
- Full funding for the Alaska Marine Highway System
- Haines-based shuttle ferry and/or day boat for the Lynn Canal
- Full funding for School District's Area Cost Differential (ISER Study)

# Legislative Issues

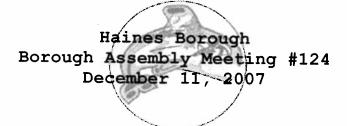
- PERS/TERS funding
- Revenue Sharing
- PCE funding
- Unfunded mandate relief (senior tax exemption)

# Cruise Ship Industry-Related Projects - Haines

All of the Road projects below include the rehabilitation of the road and the addition of sidewalks and/or walking paths as well as beach access and parking facilities.

- Beach Road Widening and Front Street Intersection Improvements
- Beach Road Widening and pathway from Harbor to Haines Highway
- Main Street Reconstruction (Front Street to Second Avenue)
- Old Haines Highway sidewalk construction
- Portage Cove Boat Harbor parking lot Current facilities are over-crowded and undersized for the harbor users and other recreationalists.
- Portage Cove Harbor restrooms Restroom facilities are needed at both ends of the community's waterfront and would be located at both the small boat harbor and the Port Chilkoot cruise ship dock.
- Restrooms at Port Chilkoot Dock
- Upgrades to Tlingit Park paths construct paved surfaces on local paths to ADA standards

- Parking lot paving Port Chilkoot Dock and Lookout Park Pave gravel parking lots, repair associated curb, gutter and sidewalks.
- Beachfront enhancement, Totem Park boardwalk The community has identified
  beach access and walkways as a high priority. One concept has been to develop a boardwalk
  along the tidelands that would feature totem poles carved by local artisans. This could be an
  entrepreneurial venture that allows the carvers to display and sell the totems.
- Port Chilkoot Dock Repairs trestle and main deck
- Port Chilkoot Dock debt retirement
- Lutak Dock resurfacing and paving This port facility is an alternate docking facility for
  cruise ships and is a dirt/gravel surface. Paving will cut down the exposure to extreme dusty
  conditions and provide a safer walking surface for the cruise ship passengers.



## CERTIFICATION OF ASSEMBLY ACTION

Present: Deputy Mayor Jerry LAPP and other Assembly Members Doug OLERUD, Steve VICK, Deborah VOGT, Norm SMITH, and Pete LAPHAM. Absent: Mayor Fred SHIELDS.

# 2008 Legislative Priorities

<u>Motion</u> by VICK: Approve the 2008 Haines Borough Legislative Priorities. It was seconded by VOGT. The motion carried unanimously.

Attest:

Jplie Cozzi, Borough Clerk Haines Borough, Alaska



A non-profit educational and research organization

Dedicated to the conservation of the American Bald Eagle . . .

November 20, 2007

Representative Bill Thomas P.O. Box 993 Haines, Alaska 99827

Dear Rep. Thomas;

We hope this letter finds you doing well and enjoying a Thanksgiving break. As you know, the American Bald Eagle Foundation (ABEF) is currently in the process of making several major changes to its physical facilities in preparation for an expanded mission over the next few years. We have been raising funds for our injured raptor mew structure for about three years now and have reached somewhat of an impasse, so we are requesting help and assistance from you. Below you will find a condensed summary of our requests and plans; of course, should you need more information please do not hesitate to contact us at your convenience.

We already own the land, we have acquired and paid for our entire steel structure for our forthcoming eagle-raptor mew, and we have already obtained all the required federal and local permits for maintaining raptors at our facility. Furthermore, we have acquired the services of our Director at Large, Kerry Seifert, for raptor handling and care as well as training of raptor handler interns. Kerry is a master falconer with over 35 years of experience in raptor handling and public education. Therefore, the only thing we do not currently have are the total funds necessary to erect our eagle-raptor mew. When erected the mew will permanently house three or more bald eagles for educational purposes. The ABEF will only hold raptors that cannot be returned to the wild. This holding center will generate much needed revenue as well as new employment opportunities in the Haines Borough. We will be approaching the cruise ship industry to establish tours to the ABEF Natural History Museum and Raptor Center as soon as we can obtain adequate funding to erect our eagle mew. This in turn will also produce additional revenue in the community to help our local economy by increasing tour related visitation and income.

As you know, the ABEF already has a stellar national and international reputation for excellence among natural history and conservation groups. We also have a tremendous reputation among wildlife photographers, artists, and researchers as may be witnessed by our ability to bring such world renowned professionals to Haines as Tom Mangelsen, Jon Van Zyle, Arthur Morris, Brian Hatson, Robert Glenn Ketchum, and George Lepp just to name a few who have participated in ABEF programs. In the year 2000, the Foundation established

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prosper and has now expanded into additional programs with multiple universities in both the a prototype student intern program with Georgia Southern University that continues to United States and Canada. Additionally, the ABEF has established a trusting and mutually respectful relationship with our Tlingit community. The ABEF's positive interaction with Native Alaskans and the inclusion of Native history, culture and subsistence in our sisters have established a role model for others to emulate. This is a testimony to the ABEF's universal respect and appeal among all peoples. We feel any improvement to the facilities and programs of the ABEF will have a positive influence on not only Haines and it's citizens, but organization, as well as our everyday operational involvement with our Tlingit brothers and also the state of Alaska and all who visit here.

\$500,000.00 to allow us to erect and complete our eagle mew/raptor center facility. In our Should you need additional information regarding this project please do not hesitate to Therefore, we are requesting your help in obtaining a legislative grant of approximately 25 years of existence this is the first time the ABEF has ever requested legislative assistance in funding for any project. The facility will be self sustaining through it's research and educational programs, ABEF memberships, and admission fees; therefore, all operational expenses will be fully funded. Thank you for any assistance you may be able to provide.

Sincerely,

Dr. Dan A. Hart, Executive Trustee American Bald Eagle Foundation

> Cc: ABEF Board of Trustees ABEF Directors at Large